

Message Text

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21

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

FEA-01 ACDA-10 IO-10 EB-07 NRC-07 ERDA-07 /113 W

----- 041364

R 040543Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5056

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS BANGKOK 10228

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TH, TGEN, JA

SUBJ: U.S. URANIUM ENRICHMENT SUPPLY POSITION

REF: (A) STATE 108701; (B) STATE 126581

TOKYO FOR ERDA SCIREP HENOCH

1. DURING MAY 16 CALL BY ERDA SCIENTIFIC REP WILLIAM HENOCH ON KASEM CHATIKAVANIJ, GENERAL MANAGER OF ELECTRICITY GENERATING AUTHORITY OF THAILAND (EGAT), AND IN CONTEXT OF PARAGRAPH 4, REFTEL (A), KASEM SAID HE BELIEVED EGAT'S URANIUM ENRICHMENT CONTRACT WITH ERDA WAS FIRM, RATHER THAN CONDITIONAL.

2. ON JUNE 3, EMBASSY COMMERCIAL ATTACHE TELEPHONED PREECHA CHUNGWATANA, DIRECTOR OF EGAT'S POWER DEPT., (WHO HAD BEEN OUT OF COUNTRY DURING EARLIER VISIT) TO GIVE HIM GIST OF REFTEL (B). IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, PREECHA STATED DEFINITELY THAT CONTRACT IS FIRM, AND THAT THEREFORE QUESTION OF CONVERSION OR RESUMPTION OF CONTRACT IS PRESUMABLY ACADEMIC IN EGAT'S CASE.

3. PREECHA SAID HE WOULD NEVERTHELESS APPRECIATE RECEIVING EXCERPT FROM SECRETARY'S MAY 27 IEA SPEECH DEALING WITH NUCLEAR ENERGY, WHICH EMBASSY HAS SENT HIM, TOGETHER WITH BRIEF SUMMARY UNCLASSIFIED

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OF REFTEL (B).

4. EMBASSY ASSUMES THAT, HAVING MADE INITIAL DOWN PAYMENT PRIOR
TO JUNE 30, 1974, EGAT IS CORRECT IN ITS PRESUMPTION THAT ITS
CONTRACT IS FIRM AND THAT QUESTION OF CONVERSION IN ORDER TO
ASSURE ENRICHMENT SUPPLY IS THUS INAPPLICABLE. IF THIS IS NOT
THE CASE, PLEASE ADVISE.

WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: URANIUM, PLUTONIUM, NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS, CONTRACTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO10228
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750194-0947
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750679/aaaacudw.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 108701, 75 STATE 126581
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greenet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAR 2003 by PhiliR0>; APPROVED <29 JAN 2004 by greenet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. URANIUM ENRICHMENT SUPPLY POSITION
TAGS: TGEN, TH, JA, US, ERDA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006